

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0028] on page 7 of the specification with the following paragraph:

[0028] Such a process is the method of gene replacement. With this method, a mutation such as, for example, a deletion, an insertion or base-exchange in the gene of interest is produced in vitro. The allele that is produced is, in turn, cloned into a vector that is non-replicative in respect of *C. glutamicum* and said vector is subsequently converted by transformation or conjugation into the desired host of *C. glutamicum*. After homologous recombination by means of a first cross-over event bringing about integration and by means of a suitable second cross-over event in the target gene or in the target sequence bringing about an excision, the incorporation of the mutation or of the allele is obtained. This method was used in ~~EP: 00110021.3~~ EP 1 156 115 A I.B.R., for example, in order to switch off the *secG* gene of *C. glutamicum*.